

**Fact Sheet  
September  
2004**

# **Univar USA Inc. Bonnie Beach Facility Commerce, California**

## **SITE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES INFORMATION REPOSITORIES ADDED**

*It is DTSC's  
mission to restore,  
protect and enhance  
the environment,  
to ensure  
public health,  
environmental  
quality and  
economic vitality,  
by regulating  
hazardous waste,  
conducting and  
overseeing  
cleanups, and  
developing  
and promoting  
pollution prevention.*

**State of California**



**California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency**



### **INTRODUCTION**

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is continuing to oversee soil and groundwater investigations for the Univar USA, Inc., Bonnie Beach Facility (BBF), formerly Van Waters and Rogers, Bonnie Beach Facility. The purpose of the investigation is to characterize the nature and extent of potential onsite and offsite contamination. This fact sheet contains information concerning current investigation activities, additional information repositories, site background, future activities, public involvement, and information contacts.

### **INFORMATION REPOSITORIES ADDED**

In order to provide the community and interested parties with better access to site related documents, DTSC has added two new information repositories (listed below) for the Bonnie Beach Site. The information repositories contain copies of key documents, such as the Interim Measures Workplan and the Public Participation Plan, as well as investigation reports and past fact sheets. Some documents, such as the Public Participation Plan and the past fact sheets are available in both English and Spanish. Also, documents subject to public review and comment will be placed in the information repositories and will be available during the public comment periods.

The information repositories are:

Bristow Park Library  
1466 South Mc Donnell Avenue  
Commerce, CA 90040  
Phone: (323) 269-5603

DTSC, Glendale Office  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, CA 91201  
Phone: (818) 551-2800

Our Lady of Victory Church  
1316 South Herbert Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90023  
Phone: (323) 268-9502



FIGURE 1. Univar USA Inc. Location Map

## SITE BACKGROUND

The BBF is located in an industrial and residential area at 1363 South Bonnie Beach Place, in Los Angeles/ Commerce, California (see figure 1). Univar has been the owner of the BBF from 1958 until 2003 and operated the BBF until December 2002. The BBF had been used for the blending and distribution of chemicals. Between 1971 and 1985, a portion of the BBF was used for recycling industrial solvents (Figure 2). Subsurface investigations conducted between 1986 and 1990 discovered that a number of solvents at the BBF had leaked into the soil beneath the recycle facility area and the former underground storage tanks (USTs). The site plan is shown in Figure 2.

In June of 1995, Van Waters and Rogers Inc. (now Univar USA, Inc.) entered into a consent agreement with DTSC. The agreement committed Univar USA, Inc. to a hazardous waste investigation and cleanup with DTSC oversight at the BBF. The agreement outlines a series of investigations to evaluate the type and extent of chemical contamination of soil and groundwater on and off the BBF site.

A Phase I investigation conducted in late 1995 and early 1996 confirmed the presence of solvents in soil in the former recycle area and around the former USTs, and identified solvents in ground water. Additional data was needed, and from November 1996 to April 1997, Phase II of the facility investigation was performed, which included collecting soil, soil gas, and ground water samples both onsite and offsite. The results of the investigation indicated that solvents are present in soil gas and ground water beneath the site and offsite.

The Phase III investigation began in December 1997 and focused on assessing the presence of vapors in soil gas beneath the BBF warehouse and evaluating the presence of solvents in deeper zones. The Phase IV investigation concluded in late 1999 through 2002, included further assessment of solvents and hydrogeologic conditions in the shallow and intermediate ground water zones in off-site, downgradient areas. Results of the investigations to date indicate contamination has extended offsite, and DTSC has determined that additional investigation was necessary to determine the extent of offsite soil gas contamination. See “Current Soil Gas Investigation” below. In December 2002, all operations ceased at the BBF and the facility has been vacant since then. Currently, soil and ground water investigation and remediation are ongoing activities at the BBF.

## CURRENT SOIL GAS INVESTIGATION

Prior to developing corrective measures, DTSC requested additional soil gas investigations. Currently Univar is conducting this investigation at the site and in the immediate vicinity to the east, west and southeast to further evaluate subsurface conditions. Measurements of soil gas concentrations in shallow soil at 5' and 10' depths will be used to determine if a potential exists for site-related contaminants to migrate to outdoor air or into buildings offsite. The results of the soil gas investigation will be used to evaluate potential health risks to local residents and commercial workers,

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and to develop appropriate remedial alternatives. The results may also be used to evaluate the need for additional offsite sampling.

## **SOIL CLEANUP**

DTSC is overseeing an Interim Measures program to clean up the soil at BBF. The Interim Measures program is separate from, but consistent with, the ongoing investigation and cleanup process at BBF outlined in the Consent Agreement. Univar has installed a soil vapor extraction and treatment system (SVET) to remove chemicals from soil. The extracted soil gas vapors are treated by a catalytic oxidizer that reduces the chemicals to carbon dioxide, water, and a small amount of sodium chloride (table salt) and sodium bicarbonate (baking soda). The SVET system is intended to remediate the deeper zones of soils beneath the UST area and southern portions of the facility. In addition, soil vapor extraction, with vapor treatment by a carbon adsorption system, is installed to clean up the shallow soils surrounding the former UST area.

The cleanup is being done in phases. In the first phase, soil surrounding the USTs (see Figure 2) were cleaned up so that workers would not be exposed to chemicals in the soil when the USTs were removed. The next phase will focus on cleaning up deeper soil in the UST area and in the southern part of the BBF. The same treatment system will be used for all phases of the Interim Measures program soil cleanup. Univar intends to continue soil vapor extraction and treatment from the UST area and the deeper zones as part of the corrective measures to address subsurface contamination.

## **CORRECTIVE MEASURES STUDY**

The results of the four phases of investigation, combined with additional soil gas investigation results and treatability studies, will be utilized to evaluate relevant cleanup options for contaminated soil, soil gas, and ground water. After completing this evaluation, the most appropriate and effective cleanup alternative will be selected, designed, and

implemented. The evaluation will begin after receiving the results of the ongoing soil gas investigation. The results of the evaluation will be published in future fact sheets.

## **PROPERTY REUSE/ REVITALIZATION**

In November 2002, approximately 1.26 acres of the property, which includes the former truck and vehicle parking areas at the northern end of the BBF (Figure 2), were transferred to the Los Angeles County Community Development Department. The area to the east of South Bonnie Beach Place has been developed into a park. The remaining portion of the Univar property, except the southern area of the site occupied by remediation equipment, has been sold to a fabric distribution company.

## **DTSC CONTACTS**

Lorraine Larsen-Hallock  
Soil Gas and Indoor Air Investigation  
DTSC Project Manager  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826  
Phone: (916) 255-3578  
E-mail: llarsenh@dtsc.ca.gov

Ken Payne  
Groundwater and Remedial Measures  
DTSC Project Manager  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826  
Phone: (916) 255-6444  
E-mail: kpayne@dtsc.ca.gov

Randy Sturgeon  
DTSC Public Participation Specialist  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826  
Phone: (916) 255-3649  
E-mail: rsturgeo@dtsc.ca.gov

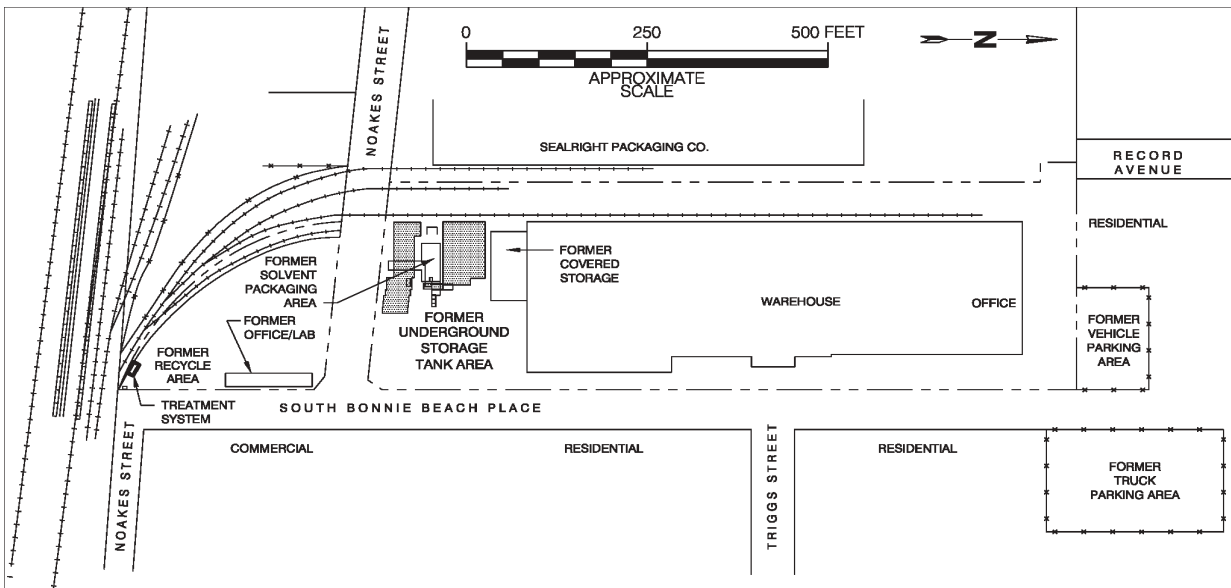


FIGURE 2. Site Plan, UST/Former Recycle Area, and Treatment System Location

### Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a **Yolanda Garza**, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (818) 551-2955.

### Notice to Hearing Impaired

You can obtain additional information on the Univar USA Inc., Bonnie Beach Facility by using the California State Relay Service at: 1-888-877-5378. Ask them to contact Randy Sturgeon at (916) 255-3649 regarding the site investigation.

### Mailing List Information

If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail and wish to be on the Univar USA, Inc., Bonnie Beach Facility mailing list, please complete the coupon below and return it to Randy Sturgeon, Public Participation Specialist, at 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826.

Please add my name to the Univar USA, Inc., Bonnie Beach Facility mailing list. DTSC mailing lists are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.

Name:

Mailing Address:

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